



Amendment to the Specification

Change page 1, line 21 to page 2, line 2, as follows:

Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 2002-249016 has disclosed an airbag device wherein both left and right sides of an airbag are folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats toward an instrument panel such that a width of the airbag is smaller than a width of the casing, and the airbag is rolled into a rolled portion around an axis along a horizontal direction of the occupant, so that the folded airbag is stored into the casing.

The airbag disclosed in Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 2002-249016 is folded through rolling and folding ~~in bellows~~ with pleats, so that a high-performance inflator is needed for quickly inflating the airbag.

Change page 3, lines 16-21, as follows:

According to a seventh aspect of the present invention, in the leg protection device according to any of the first through fifth aspect, the part of the airbag folded inwardly between the front panel and the rear panel further includes a portion pleated ~~folded~~ twice or more times between the front panel and the rear panel.

Change page 4, lines 7-10, as follows:

According to a tenth aspect of the present invention, in the leg protection device according to the eighth or the ninth aspect, the left and right sides of the rolled portion are folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats to be stored in the casing.

Change page 5, lines 19-27, as follows:

In the present invention, the perimeter of the folded portion of the airbag folded inwardly between the front panel and the rear panel includes the single pleated portion or the portion pleated twice or more times. In the case of the portion pleated twice or

more times, the portion ~~expand~~ expands further smoothly and quickly just before the airbag is inflated completely. In the case of the single pleated portion, workability for folding the airbag is improved as compared with the portion pleated twice or more times.

Change page 6, lines 3-23, as follows:

In the present invention, the lower portion of the airbag below the casing is spread prior to folding, and the upper portion above the lower portion is rolled into the rolled portion around an axis extending in the horizontal direction. The lower portion is folded over the rolled portion toward the occupant, and the left and the right sides of the rolled portion are folded over the lower portion toward the occupant to form the folded portion. When the airbag is inflated, the lower portion of the airbag is inflated first. The left and right sides of the rolled portion folded over the lower portion toward the occupant are pushed out from the casing while the lower portion of the airbag is inflated. Accordingly, the left and the right sides of the rolled portion come loose at an early stage of the inflation, so that the rolled portion ~~expand~~ expands smoothly and quickly.

In the present invention, the left and the right sides of the rolled portion are folded ~~in-bellows~~ with pleats or are rolled to be stored in the casing. In the case of being folded ~~in-bellows~~ with pleats, the airbag expands quickly in the horizontal direction. In the case of being rolled, the folded portion is firm when being stored in the casing, thereby improving workability.

Change page 13, line 22 to page 14, line 3, as follows:

As shown in Figs 5(a) and 5(c), the rolled portion 1R has extending portions 1a extending from left and right sides of the casing 2. The extending portions 1a are folded at base portions (portions protruding from the casing 2) along the vertical folding

lines 15 (see Fig. 6(a)) toward the occupant (upper side in Fig. 5(c) and Fig. 6(a)), such that the folded portions are folded over the rolled portion 1R toward the occupant. The remaining portions thereof are folded in a zigzag shape toward the occupant to form a compact portion folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats (hereafter, referred to as portion folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats) 1F to be stored within the casing 2. The lid 4 is mounted on the casing 2, thereby completing the leg protection device.

Change page 14, lines 7-17, as follows:

The leg protection device is installed in, for example, an interior panel in front of a seat, such that the lid 4 and the interior panel form a flat surface. When the inflator 3 is activated in case of collision of the automobile to inflate the airbag 1 of the leg protection device, the airbag 1 pushes the lid 4 to open and the pleated portion 1F of the airbag 1 protrudes in front of the casing 2 as shown in Fig. 7(a). As shown in Fig. 7(b), the portion folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats 1F comes loose and extends in the horizontal direction of the legs of the occupant, and the rolled portion 1R of the airbag 1 extends upwardly.

Change page 15, lines 17-20, as follows:

In the present embodiment, the extending portions 1a are folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats to form the portion folded ~~in bellows~~ with pleats 1F to be stored within the casing 2, thereby expanding the extending portions 1a at the time of inflation of the airbag.

Change page 16, lines 12-27, as follows:

In the embodiment, after the pleated portions 1t, 1s, and 1s are formed, and the airbag 1 is rolled into the intermediate folded portion (rolled portion 1R). The intermediate folded portion may

be formed with other folding methods, e.g. folding ~~in bellows~~ with pleats.

The extending portions 1a of the intermediate folded portion extending from the casing 2 may be folded with a folding method other than the method of folding ~~in bellows~~ with pleats. For example, as shown in Figs. 10(a) and 10(b), the extending portions 1a (see Figs. 5(a) and 5(b)) are folded along the vertical folding line 16 at the base end thereof toward the occupant (upper side in Figs. 10(a) and 10(b)), and the remaining portions are rolled into compact rolled portions 1r to be stored within the casing 2. With such an arrangement, the rolled extending portions 1a are stored within the casing 2, so that the compact rolled portions 1r do not come loose, thereby improving workability.